

Application No. 10/787,176
Amendment dated July 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2006

Docket No.: 3624-0157P

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a golf club head, comprising the steps of:

forming a first inclined surface on an inner periphery of an opening of a body with a first inclination, the inner periphery inclining inwardly along the first inclined surface to have a first minimum distance across the opening;

forming a second inclined surface on an outer periphery of a striking plate with a second inclination corresponding to that of the first inclined surface of the opening of the body, the outer periphery inclining inwardly along the second inclined surface to have a second minimum distance across the striking plate, said second minimum distance being greater than said first minimum distance;

engaging the second inclined surface of the striking plate with the first inclined surface of the body, an assemble tolerance provided between the first inclined surface of the body and the second inclined surface of the striking plate due to the second minimum distance of the striking plate being greater than said first minimum distance of the opening;

exerting a predetermined force to the striking plate to tightly embed the striking plate in the opening of the body such that the second inclined surface of the striking plate tightly engages with the first inclined surface of the opening of the body to form an engaging area between the striking plate and the body in preparing friction welding;

moving a rotating pin along the engaging area between the striking plate and the body to proceed with the friction welding, with the predetermined force exerting on the striking plate;
and

Application No. 10/787,176
Amendment dated July 25, 2006
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Docket No.: 3624-0157P

surface finishing the engaging area between the striking plate and the body.

2. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first inclined surface delimiting the opening of the body tapers inward, and wherein the second inclined surface of the striking plate tapers rearward.

3. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first inclined surface delimiting the opening of the body is one of planar and arcuate, and wherein the second inclined surface of the striking plate is one of planar and arcuate.

4. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first inclined surface of the body has a height greater than a thickness of the striking plate.

5. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the first inclined surface of the body and the second inclined surface of the striking plate includes an annular groove, and wherein the other of the first inclined surface of the body and the second inclined surface of the striking plate includes an annular flange received in the annular groove, providing accurate positioning.

6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the opening of the body further includes a shoulder, the striking plate is spaced apart from the shoulder to provide the assemble tolerance therebetween.

Application No. 10/787,176
Amendment dated July 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2006

Docket No.: 3624-0157P

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further including an ~~intermedia~~intermediate layer between the first inclined surface of the body and the second inclined surface of the striking plate.

8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the ~~intermedia~~intermediate layer is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of niobium, chromium, aluminum, copper, iron, zirconium, titanium, vanadium, tantalum, silver, nickel, tungsten, and alloys thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the ~~intermedia~~intermediate layer is formed on one of the first inclined surface of the body and the second inclined surface of the striking plate by means of one of electroplating and coating.

10. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first inclined surface of the body is formed on an inner perimeter surface delimiting the opening, and wherein the second inclined surface of the striking plate is formed on an inner perimeter surface of the striking plate.

11-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first inclined surface is located in the second inclined surface of the opening.

Application No. 10/787,176
Amendment dated July 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2006

Docket No.: 3624-0157P

22. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first inclined surface has a first inner end edge spaced apart from a second inner end edge of the second inclined surface.